



Daily Report

Sub-Saharan Africa

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Rwanda

Rwanda: Premier in Belgium Seeking Extradition of Ex-Officer

EA2603214096 Kigali Radio Rwanda in English
1145 GMT 26 Mar 96

[FBIS Transcribed Text] The Rwandan premier, Pierre Celestin Rwigyema, last evening (25 March), left the country for Belgium. While in Belgium, the premier is expected to hold talks with Belgian Government high-ranking officials and explain to them the steps so far taken by the Rwandan Government in its reconstruction and rehabilitation programmes.

He is further to negotiate with the Belgian Government the extradition of Col Theoneste Bagosora [currently detained in Cameroon] to Rwanda. The Belgian Government wants Col Bagosora extradited to Brussels in connection with the murder of ten Belgian soldiers who were serving with UNAMIR in 1994. However, the Rwandan Government wants Bagosora extradited to Kigali since he is one of the ringleaders of the 1994 genocide that claimed almost one million innocent Rwandese.

Prime Minister Rwigyema, while on his tour to Belgium, will use the opportunity to appeal to European countries to disburse the financial assistance they pledged at the donors' roundtable conference for Rwanda.

Rwanda: Ex-Prime Minister on Formation of New FRD Party

AB2603170096 London BBC World Service
in English 1505 GMT 26 Mar 96

[From the "Focus on Africa" program]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Two former leading members of the Rwanda Patriotic Front (RPF) have launched a new party in exile today. It is called the Forces of Resistance for Democracy or FRD and its leaders are Faustin Twagiramungu, who used to be prime minister in the RPF government, and the former interior minister, Seth Sendashonga. He is based in Nairobi and earlier this year there was an attempt on his life. Faustin Twagiramungu is based in Brussels, where the inaugural press conference was held. On the line, William Wallace asked him what the new party's objectives were:

[Begin recording] [Twagiramungu] Well, in short, our objective is the reconciliation of all Rwandese. This is the main objective, and we think that this can only be possible if there are some requirements like having a national Army, having security inside so that Rwandese who are outside could go back home and those who are in Rwanda could live peacefully because now they are all fearful. They don't trust the government in there. What the government is doing is to struggle to make sure that people believe in it, but it can't work that way. So, the objective is reconciliation, mainly.

[Wallace] And how are you going to set about this? Have you got representation in Rwanda or will you be operating in exile?

[Twagiramungu] We think we are going to operate here. I mean in different countries outside Rwanda, but this does not mean that we don't have followers inside. All Rwandese who were in our political parties are still there, most of them. Others, of course, are refugees but as they don't believe in the ideal of RPF, then they are our followers. So, we are going to have mechanisms to contact them and to continue our political struggle.

[Wallace] And are you going to be in contact with the RPF?

[Twagiramungu] Well, if they wish, yes, but if they don't want, well, we don't want to negotiate with them. What we want is to have a political line which is very well defined and when they are convinced, then they are going to call us, but we are not going to call them.

[Wallace] And how long do you think that might take?

[Twagiramungu] Well, it can take a very short period of time as it can also take a very long period. It depends on the wish of people concerned, mainly the Rwandese population. How would they react? How are they going to continue reacting to the situation today? So, they don't have to take up arms, I think. They can even resist. We have different manners of resisting to fight a regime similar to that one in Rwanda.

[Wallace] And since you left the government last year, have you been in contact with the RPF?

[Twagiramungu] Well, from the time I have made my statement concerning killings in the country, they don't want really to approach me. Otherwise, I am free. I can talk to anybody. And we are also afraid for our own security for that matter. What happened to the former minister of interior in Nairobi is sufficient to convince me that the contact would be quite difficult. [end recording]

[Paris AFP in French at 1307 GMT on 26 March adds the following: "At a news conference in Brussels, Messrs. Twagiramungu and Sendashonga called for the restoration of a law abiding state and national reconciliation. They rejected 'every discrimination based on ethnic grouping, region, sex, or religion.' The two men also appealed to the international community to place Kigali under UN supervision. 'We are appealing to the universal conscience. What was done for Bosnia after the Dayton Accords can be done today for Rwanda,' Seth Sendashonga stated. Denouncing the 'lack of UN willingness' in Rwanda, Faustin Twagiramungu, on his part, asked the world body to provide 'civilian, military, and legal assistance to ensure the internal and external security of Rwanda.'"]

Ethiopia

Ethiopia: Foreign Ministry Denies Role in Recent Fighting in Sudan

EA2603210796 Addis Ababa Radio Ethiopia National Service in Amharic 1700 GMT 26 Mar 96

[FBIS Translated Text] The Ministry of Foreign Affairs said today [26 March] that accusations levelled against Ethiopia by Sudan that Ethiopia, in collaboration with Sudan Liberation Front forces, had captured two Sudanese border towns were baseless.

According to the ministry spokesman, Sudan's attempt to involve Ethiopia in the internal affairs of its country — while it has admitted that Pochala and Yabus were captured by the Sudan Liberation Front — is aimed at hiding its internal problems and putting the blame on a neighbouring country.

The spokesman went on to say that Ethiopia, which never interferes in the internal affairs of neighbouring countries, will continue with this same policy and noted that Sudan's fabrication is regrettable.

In its statement yesterday, the Sudan Liberation Front pointed out that it has started a counter offensive campaign and noted that it had completely routed Sudanese Government troops from the two border towns.

Kenya

Kenya: Opposition Figure Gunned Down 26 March

AB2603173496 London BBC World Service in English 1505 GMT 26 Mar 96

[From the "Focus on Africa" program]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] The leader of one of Kenya's most active pressure groups called Release Political Prisoners [RPP] has been gunned down today in a suburb of the capital Nairobi. From there our correspondent, Suleiman Salim, reports:

[Begin Salim recording] The secretary of Release Political Prisoners pressure group, Karim Nduzu, was murdered in the early hours of Monday by a group of unknown gunmen at his home in Riruta satellite village, just outside Nairobi. A statement by the RPP says it had learned from eyewitnesses that soon after the murder, a large contingent of local policemen ransacked Mr. Nduzu's home and took away papers, books, and a computer. Nduzu was previously held in Kenyan jails for six years as a political prisoner before he was released in 1992 at the peak of the struggle for multiparty politics. RPP says Nduzu was constantly under police surveillance and it is treating his murder as political assassination.

A spokesman for the Kenyan Human Rights Commission, Mr. Maina Kiyaye, said the 35-year old Mr. Nduzu was the second human rights activist to be murdered in six months. The first was George Etigue, who was killed in October last year outside his home near Zika Town, about 30 miles from Nairobi. Mr. Kiyaye said his organization was apprehensive that a pattern might have been set of assassinating human rights activists in the guise of armed robberies. The police department, which is investigating the two murders, believe they were part of an ongoing armed robberies in Kenyan towns and cities. [end recording]

Somalia

Somalia: Renewed Fighting Breaks Out Between Two Factions in Marqa

AB2603181796 London BBC World Service in English 1505 GMT 26 Mar 96

[From the "Focus on Africa" program]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Another armed confrontation has broken out between the two main factions battling for control of Marqa, a strategic port to the south of the Somali capital. From Mogadishu, our correspondent, Ali Musa Abdi, faxed this report:

Heavy fighting has erupted 60 km south of Mogadishu in the coastal villages of Danane and Jilib Marqa, between militiamen loyal to General Mohamed Farah Aidid and gunmen supporting his former financier, Osman Ali Ato. The fighting reportedly started when Gen. Aidid's militia attacked temporary bases of Osman Ato at Danane. It now spread to the economically important road linking Mogadishu to the fertile farming region of lower Shabele. A spokesman for Osman Ato's faction in south Mogadishu said his men have repulsed the attack from Gen. Aidid's men, inflicting heavy losses. The spokesman also claimed that his forces have captured a number of war prisoners who, he said, will be released publicly with a written warning to their families.

But as usual there has been no word from Gen. Aidid concerning the clashes and the full extent of casualties, and damage caused by the fighting is not yet known. But with the fighting spreading, it is now felt that they may even reach Mogadishu where both sides are heavily represented.

This is the third round of fighting between Osman Ato and Gen. Aidid over the control of the lower Shabele region. Last week, dozens of militiamen were killed and wounded on both sides following clashes in Marqa and Danane.

Tanzania

Tanzania: Mkapa 'Genuinely Interested' in Peace for Burundi

*EA2603211296 Dar es Salaam Radio Tanzania
External Service in English 1600 GMT 26 Mar 96*

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Dar es Salaam: President Benjamin Mkapa has told the visiting Burundi prime minister, Mr Antoine Nduwayo, that Tanzania was genuinely interested in making sure that peace and stability return in Burundi as soon as possible, so as to facilitate the resumption of normal cooperation between the two countries on development issues.

The president said that Tanzania has no hidden agenda in the Burundi issue apart from the genuine desire to assist the country's process to achieve peace and stability. The president emphasized Tanzania's position

that the solution to the crisis in Burundi would only be triggered by willingness of all groups in the country to agree to enter into a dialogue destined to evolve a political dispensation that would ensure the return of democracy. The role of the Tanzania Government and that of facilitators, especially [former Tanzanian President] Mwalimu Julius Nyerere, was to support that internal dialogue so that it reached its desired conclusion.

The Burundi prime minister, on his part, said the people of Burundi had great confidence in the integrity and ability of Mwalimu Nyerere to bring together the various groups in the country for an acceptable political formula. Meanwhile, he said, a mass campaign had been initiated inside Burundi in support of a state of reconciliation and peace.

South Africa: Spokesman Denies Mandela To Retire End of 1996

MB2703121596 Johannesburg SAPA in English
1042 GMT 27 Mar 96

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Cape Town March 27 SAPA — There was no truth in a market rumour that President Nelson Mandela would retire at the end of this year for health reasons, spokesman Parks Mankahlana said on Wednesday.

He said the President's office was "amused" by the speculation. Doctors last week released a detailed report saying the President was fit for a man of his age.

South Africa: Mandela Said Prepared To Mediate in China-Taiwan Dispute

MB2603160396 Johannesburg BEELD in Afrikaans
25 Mar 96 p 1

[FBIS Translated Text] A spokesman for President Nelson Mandela reacted cautiously yesterday to reports that the president could possibly act as mediator between the People's Republic of China and Taiwan.

Foreign Minister Alfred Nzo reportedly said in an interview that he would offer this proposal during his visit to the People's Republic of China this weekend. He apparently said that President Mandela is prepared to play a conciliatory role between the two countries if he is asked to do so.

President Mandela's spokesman said yesterday: "It was hinted to President Mandela that he could possibly be approached to act as mediator between the two countries."

Concerning President Mandela's views on the issue, the spokesman said that the countries concerned should decide on mediation. It is also up to the two countries to decide who they want as mediator.

South Africa finds itself in an uncomfortable situation in the light of its ties with the two archrivals.

South Africa: Country's Sovereignty Central To U.S. Deal on Armscor

MB2703143796 Johannesburg SAPA in English
1348 GMT 27 Mar 96

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Cape Town March 27 SAPA — South Africa's sovereignty would be protected when negotiating a deal with the United States on the indictment of Armscor [Armaments Corporation of South Africa] for breaking the arms embargo, Deputy Foreign Affairs Minister Aziz Pahad said on Wednesday.

Briefing the media on the government's position and its future plans, Pahad said negotiations on finding a speedy solution to the problem were being held regularly.

Armscor and Kentron had been indicted in October 1991 by a Pennsylvania federal grand jury for conspiracy to violate the U.S. Arms Export Controls Act.

The United States Government had proposed that the South African Government through Armscor plead nolle contendere to the charges, thereby neither admitting nor denying guilt.

However, it could face up to U.S.D 5 million [dollars] in criminal fines against the government and up to U.S.D2.5 million in civil fines "against two entities" — probably Armscor and Kentron.

South Africa: Mbeki Notes 'Encouraging' Investment From Southeast Asia

MB2703134496 Johannesburg THE STAR in English
27 Mar 96 p 6

[Report by John Spiral]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] South Africa's economic interaction with Southeast Asia is booming. Trade with Singapore is more than R1.5 billion [rands], and Malaysia and Thailand follow closely with R1 billion each.

Deputy President Thabo Mbeki said yesterday that South Africa was experiencing encouraging inflows of investment. Singapore was leading once again and a "further and significant increase" in investments was expected from Malaysia.

Addressing the Asean Tigers and African Lion conference in Midrand, Mbeki was confident that this represented the beginning of an interaction "that has great possibilities that would benefit all the players as we implement practically the shared vision of ever-increasing South-South cooperation".

The principal theme running through the conference was that Southeast Asia's remarkable economic success derived principally from huge foreign investment flows. For South Africa to emulate that success, it needed to create conditions conducive to investment from abroad.

Robert Chua, the leader of the Singapore investment delegation to the conference, pinpointed the intransigence of South African labour unions as South Africa's greatest deterrent to foreign investment. "You need union leaders who realise that if they want a larger slice of the cake, they have to be internationally competitive. If they moderate their demands, they will in due course get an equitable slice of a larger cake." Chua said that since 1978, Singapore had suffered only two strikes.

"In 1986, labour took an across-the-board 11 percent reduction in wages, after which the economy, which had been struggling bounced back. Because of this attitude, Singapore has become an attractive international investment destination."

He revealed that Singapore was seeking to invest further in South Africa, but would only do so actively if the country created an investment climate similar to that which existed in Singapore.

Conrad Strauss, the chairman of Standard Bank, echoed these sentiments. He said that a large proportion of South Africa's workforce was barred from the job market because of the high costs of wages.

"In South Africa, the labour market is clearly functioning poorly, with more than one-third of the workforce unemployed. The reasons are not hard to find. The market is distorted by legislation and by trade union action."

Haryono Eddyarto, the chairman of the Indonesia-South Africa Business Club, urged South Africa to provide a climate attractive to foreign portfolio investors, "which will lure and maintain an adequate level of foreign direct investment". He said this required more than sound economic policies and more than the policies of deregulation and liberalisation that had been initiated. The key to becoming a relevant international player was likely to lie in the way social issues were reconciled and guided to make the country increasingly attractive, Eddyarto said.

South Africa: IFP's Khoza: Government Planning To 'Ambush' Zulu Marchers

*MB2703105096 Johannesburg SAPA in English
1030 GMT 27 Mar 96*

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Johannesburg March 27 SAPA — Inkatha Freedom Party (IFP) MP Themba Khoza on Wednesday claimed he had been informed by four "high-ranking African National Congress members" that the ANC and the government were working together to repeat the horror of the 1994 Shell House massacre when Zulu marchers take to the streets of Johannesburg on Thursday.

Khoza told a Johannesburg press conference he had been informed that former members of the ANC's armed wing Umkhonto we Sizwe [Spear of the Nation], police and South African National Defence Force (SANDF) members in civilian clothes planned to "provoke" the marching Zulus into attacking. "When the Zulus react...those who plotted will open fire on less suspecting Zulus," Khoza said.

Gauteng safety and security MEC (member of the Executive Council) Jessie Duarte earlier on Wednesday

said police would prevent the Zulu demonstrators from marching through Johannesburg if they defied the ban on the display of dangerous weapons in public.

The organisers of Thursday's march say the event has been arranged to commemorate "Black Monday" — March 28, 1994 — when eight Zulus were shot dead outside the ANC's Shell House headquarters and more than 50 people were killed in and around Johannesburg in violence linked to a march by thousands of Zulus through the city.

As was the case in 1984, when the protest was billed as an apolitical event for Zulus, Thursday's march is being presented as a non-party political event to which all Zulus have been invited irrespective of which party they support. However, the Zulu indunas (chiefs) organising the march have been accused by the ANC and others of being IFP supporters.

The organisers have also vowed that marchers will carry traditional weapons, most of which have been banned in terms of a government proclamation.

Khoza claimed his four informers had attended a meeting where the plot to "ambush" the Zulu marchers was hatched. Although the names of the people who attended the meeting were not known to him because the informers "had to watch their backs", Khoza said he had no doubt the information was correct. "This is one (piece of) information I'll never doubt. I wish it could never be true," Khoza said.

Khoza said "forces of terror" would move among pedestrians and onlookers as a "unit" assigned to provoke the Zulus. He claimed snipers would be in place on buildings overlooking the march route.

Khoza said he could not say who was responsible for calling the meeting. "Perhaps Safety and Security Minister Sydney Mufamadi can answer that. It is the ANC and the government that must take the responsibility."

Khoza also asked whether President Nelson Mandela had repeated his "shoot to kill instruction", referring to Mandela's admission after the 1994 Shell House shooting that he had instructed ANC security guards to open fire on the Zulu marchers because they had threatened the building and ANC staff.

Khoza said his suspicions were aroused when Duarte refused to meet march organisers, apparently on the instruction of Gauteng Premier Tokyo Sexwale.

He claimed police and the SANDF would take advantage of the ban on the display of dangerous weapons. "The law itself places the security forces in a position where they can provoke the people..." Khoza said.

He also warned people not involved in the march to stay away from the city centre on Thursday, when the "forces of anarchy" would set out to crush the march. He said the IFP could not call off the march as the party was not responsible for organising the protest. He said the organisers were Zulu indunas.

Khoza said he saddened by the fact that no-one had been arrested in connection with the so-called Shell House massacre.

South Africa: Major Police Unions To Enforce Dangerous Weapons Ban

MB2703134096 Johannesburg SAfm Radio Network in English 1100 GMT 27 Mar 96

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Major police unions in KwaZulu/Natal say they will enforce the ban on dangerous weapons. National Police Services Union spokesperson Owen Zama has told our Durban staff that his union will not allow itself to be caught in political warfare. He says they will carry out the law to the letter. Mr. (Sidwell Ndindwa) of Popcru [Police and Prison's Civil Rights Union] says he hopes the ban will help reduce the level of violence.

In a television interview late last night, Premier Frank Mdlalose, in his capacity as police MEC [Member of the Executive Council], told his national counterpart, Sydney Mufamadi, that he would not enforce the ban.

Dr. Mdlalose said he considered the prohibition of dangerous weapons to be unfair and impractical. He told SABC [South African Broadcasting Corporation] Radio News this morning that this was narrow-minded and a misdirection of approach. He said the government should instead be concerned with getting rid of guns.

South Africa: Cabinet Approves First Phase of New National Health System

MB2603191996 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1657 GMT 26 Mar 96

[FBIS Transcribed Text] CAPE TOWN Mar 26 SAPA — Cabinet had approved the first phase of a new national health system which should give all South Africans access to free primary care by July 1 this year, Health Minister Dr Nkosazana Zuma said on Tuesday.

She also released the first guidelines for standard national medical treatment and an essential drugs list, which she said offered an important route towards equity in health care.

A key proposal in the plan — and one that has not yet been approved by Cabinet — is mandatory health insurance for hospital benefits for everyone with a job. The plan is based on recommendations of the

committee of inquiry into a national health insurance system appointed by Zuma in January last year.

The Health department said the new system would cost R5.31 billion [rands] in 1996/7, rising to R7.25 billion in 2000/01. Most of this would come from the Health budget, and the government would have to allocate more money to primary health care.

In the first phase, public primary health care facilities such as clinics and community health centres would provide services free of charge, Zuma said. This had already begun in KwaZulu-Natal and the Northern Province. Other provinces would start on April 1, and it should be fully in place by July 1.

The second phase of the new system, which consisted of regulatory reform of the private health sector, would need changes to the law, and draft legislation was being prepared.

The new plan would be meaningless unless people had access to facilities. A total of 343 new clinics would be finished this year and another 58 upgraded. However it would take up to ten years to achieve full access to quality health care countrywide.

The Department of Health said in a policy statement that if patients bypassed primary care centres and went directly to large hospitals they would be charged a fee of anything up to R50 except in emergency cases or where the centres were closed. This should discourage unnecessary use of these hospitals.

Anyone who had money or belonged to a medical scheme would still be able to see a private health practitioner. No-one would be forced to go to a publicly funded primary care center, though these centres would treat them just like any other patient. In areas short of public facilities, doctors contracted to district health authorities would be able to set up teams in private primary health care centres.

Doctors choosing not to participate in the national health system would continue to be paid by medical schemes or directly by patients. Vacant health posts in primary care centres would be filled as soon as possible, new posts would be created, and ways of improving doctors' and nurses' salaries and working conditions would be investigated. The policy proposed changes to the law on medical schemes to make them more affordable and to ensure that the elderly and sick were not forced out of the schemes by rising costs.

A key policy proposal was to make membership of a basic hospital plan compulsory for everyone with a job. This would cover at least the cost of care in public hospitals, but people willing to pay more could use private institutions.

This proposal would stabilise private health insurance and raise [words indistinct].

Angola

Angola: UN's Beye Meets Namibian President in Windhoek, Returns

MB2603205696 *Luanda Radio Nacional Network in Portuguese 1900 GMT 26 Mar 96*

[FBIS Translated Text] Alioune Blondin Beye, special representative of the UN secretary general in Angola, returned to Luanda early this evening from Windhoek, Namibia. In the Namibian capital, Alioune Blondin Beye dealt with issues connected with the Angolan peace process and was received in audience by Namibian President Sam Nujoma.

[Begin recording] [Beye, in French with passage-by-passage translation into Portuguese] I visited Namibia at the invitation of his excellency the president of the Republic of Namibia, with whom I held lengthy talks this morning, followed by a meeting with the diplomatic corps.

During these two meetings, we assessed the present situation in the peace process. We examined the existing difficulties [words indistinct]. I must confess that, as usual, I found this fraternal neighboring country always ready to help. As you are aware, it has never spared efforts to give military or diplomatic assistance. It has more than 200 Blue Helmets. It has also provided material assistance [words indistinct] refugees in its territory. [end recording]

Angola: Army Troops Begin Withdrawal in Terms of Peace Accord

MB2603203296 *Johannesburg Channel Africa Radio in English 1500 GMT 26 Mar 96*

[FBIS Transcribed Text] United Nations observers say that Angolan government troops with tanks and heavy weapons have begun withdrawing in several areas of the country, in terms of the peace accord signed with the UNITA [National Union for the Total Independence of Angola] Movement. The observers say an infantry battalion based at Quiximba, about 30 kilometers from the port of Soyo in the Luanda North province, has been withdrawn to its barracks. Troops are also being withdrawn at Tomboco, Quelo, and (Bunge) in the North Western Zaire Province. Angolan president, Jose Eduardo dos Santos, and UNITA leader, Dr. Jonas Savimbi, [words indistinct] agreed to integrate their armed forces by June this year. Eighteen UNITA generals will be integrated into the new national army.

Angola: UNITA'S Savimbi Discusses Peace Process

MB2703134596 *Jamba Voz da Resistencia do Galo Negro in Portuguese 0600 GMT 27 Mar 96*

[Interview with Jonas Savimbi, National Union for the Total Independence of Angola leader, by RFI correspondent Rui Barcelar in Bailundo; date not given — recorded]

[FBIS Translated Text] [Savimbi] Joao Lourenco [Popular Movement for the Liberation of Angola, MPLA, information secretary], the head of the ruling party's parliamentary bench, has said the vice presidents would have no executive duties. So from my point of view, I will not be any good at that. Absolutely not. Joao Lourenco is not just anybody. He is conveying the feelings of his leaders and I do not (?accept) [word indistinct].

[Barcelar] Have you discussed the issue with President Eduardo Dos Santos?

[Savimbi] No I haven't, but I will write him. When we met in Libreville on 1 March, he gave me a letter I still have to answer. After the latest developments, I will have to reply [words indistinct].

[Barcelar] Would UNITA then consider appointing anyone else for the post?

[Savimbi] I cannot accept that. If they wanted [words indistinct] we would have to find someone in a lower position [words indistinct]. They are creating a situation that should not be so dramatic.

[Barcelar] Concerning the issue of government posts for UNITA members, I understand you already have given a list to the president. What will be the criteria for choosing the government officials?

[Savimbi] There already has been a serious incident on this issue. Maybe I should not discuss this here but I am compelled to do so. When I personally delivered the list to the president of the Republic I asked him not to disclose the contents since not everyone was consulted and this might create tension in the party. I am surprised that these names are circulating in Luanda's streets — this one will be a minister, that one a vice minister, and the other one a governor. This is proof that some people in this process still suffer from political struggle between the sides. It was a pity and now they want the names of generals. Who would guarantee us that when we provide the names they will not be public knowledge tomorrow? There is lack of seriousness in the process.

[Barcelar] Do you confirm what the troika of observers said that the formation of the fourth branch of the army is out of the question?

[Savimbi] Yes, I do. The fourth branch of the army was invented in Luanda. Already I have so many headaches. I will not have my men sent somewhere else to become foremen [words indistinct]. Finally, I will not accept that. If they decide to join that army I do not mind, but there is a general feeling that they will not accept it. I am UNITA's spokesman; this idea of the fourth branch of the army was an invention and I have never agreed with it.

[Barcelar] Is there pressure by UNITA soldiers regarding the fourth branch of the army and the confinement process?

[Savimbi] There is a lot of pressure. In fact, we are no longer speaking of pressure but tension in the army. Now tension is being put on the generals [words indistinct]. What we needed is (?to carry on talking).

[Barcelar] How does the tension show?

[Savimbi] First, the international community has [words indistinct] like the right to be a diplomat. There has been a failure to fulfill [words indistinct]. For instance, soldiers in the Londuimbale assembly area have been without food for four days now and as a result of this they flee, they desert, and return later, but there are those who leave and do not return. There are also shortages of medicine, particularly in Bailundo Hospital, which was designed only for surgery. However, the United Nations pledged to provide physicians, nurses, and medicine in Vila Nova and Londuimbale. Bailundo Hospital is overcrowded and is only a mission hospital, not a UN military hospital. So several factors led our troops to doubt our sincerity. They wonder whether the UNITA leadership negotiated with the international community merely to fulfill its pledge or we just decided to place them in assembly areas so as to find our way into ministerial posts. This is what is creating tension, besides the fact that a number of children and women have died in the assembly areas. This is leading the military personnel to doubt our honesty, so we are moving from pressure to tension.

[Barcelar] Regarding the 18 UNITA generals scheduled to join the future army, nine would be included in the fourth branch. What will happen now that there will be no fourth branch of the army?

[Savimbi] The fourth branch was there but it was not a definite thing. There was talk of UNITA generals who might join the others in the command of the Armed Forces, particularly the ground forces. The other possibility was to distribute them over the four command regions of the country. So the issue of the fourth branch of the army would have been discussed later; these generals would be members of the commands of the cen-

tral, southern, northern, and eastern regions. If the fourth branch of the army were in these regions, our generals also would be included. Now that we do not want a fourth branch, they could join the regional commands. We would have nine generals in the Supreme Command in Luanda and the other nine in the regional commands. I still believe that is not a major deadlock.

[Barcelar] What did you discuss with President Nelson Mandela in your recent meeting in Lome?

[Savimbi] The meeting was not a coincidence. I was coming from Libreville and was at the time [words indistinct] (?had stopped over) and was on my way back to Angola. He asked why I did not go there to see him to brief him on the Libreville talks. I said I could, but I told him promptly that I knew President Mandela would be there [words indistinct]. Why don't you come, he will receive you? I do not know whether he already had been in touch with President Mandela. I met him. As ever, he received me very well. He has always treated me very well. We discussed a few things in connection with the (?peace) process and its difficulties. He said if we wanted to build peace he would be ready to put in his effort, but if we had doubts he did not want to be involved if that might undermine his prestige. I told him I could not see us taking advantage of his prestige. It is true that UNITA's position — and mine — are different toward a historic figure such as President Mandela. The MPLA's attitude is different since it believes that it helped the ANC take power. So this also makes President Mandela have two different attitudes toward UNITA and the MPLA.

[Barcelar] Was it your meeting with President Mandela that caused the postponement of his visit to Luanda?

[Savimbi] I do not know, but he feels that the peace process is not ripe enough yet. He also told me he would like to meet me in Luanda, but I told him the way things are going it was unlikely I would be in Luanda. Be that as it may, he obviously made that decision for reasons other than just my influence.

[Barcelar] What is necessary for the UNITA deputies and you to go to Luanda?

[Savimbi] The Luanda government should not be linking various problems at various levels, but that is what it is doing. For instance, they are linking constitutional reform to a vice presidency addressed to me and my party. Only after these issues have been resolved will they allow our deputies to join the Assembly and form a new government. This way of linking very different things makes me rather skeptical. It should not be like this. If UNITA [words indistinct] let it be another, let

it be [words indistinct]. They are making things difficult. By the same token [words indistinct] this specific reform [words indistinct] to send our deputies, otherwise they will make that reform alone with the deputies that are there and whom they describe as permanent deputies and [words indistinct] majority [words indistinct] UNITA deputies they will no longer have an absolute majority. So I think we must devise a way to discuss Angola's problems. We must not always talk about party (?interest) [words indistinct] issues that surpass the political [passage indistinct].

Mozambique

Mozambique: Article Claims U.S. State Department Report 'Biased'

MB2603180296 Maputo DOMINGO in Portuguese
24 Mar 96 p 32

[From the "Bula-Bula" Page: "Human Rights Report"]

[FBIS Translated Text] The Human Rights report published by the U.S. State Department and drafted very much in Dennis Jett's style, was distributed in Parliament to several MPs [member of Parliament]. Bula-Bula is not aware that the report has been echoed by the MP's in their statements.

Already DOMINGO has commented on the report, which deals with specific human rights, omitting a wide range of other rights. Had the evaluation not been biased to the extent that it suits the State Department, a great many violations would have had to be reported, precisely those that are committed in the land of Uncle Sam. The State Department selects the list of the rights violations, and those that are inconvenient to them never see the light of the day and no one talks about them.

Bula-Bula would like to propose to the State Department that it draws a full list of rights and conducts the research in its own country. We can give a few details. Obviously, that does not mean there are no violations, and even serious ones, among us. But as the saying goes, "be fair and square."

Mozambique: Further Criticism of U.S. State Department Report

MB2603165496 Maputo DOMINGO in Portuguese
17 Mar 96 p 4

[Unattributed article from the "Political Analysis" section: "U.S. State Department Report on Human Rights Drafted Haphazardly"]

[FBIS Translated Text] Every year, the U.S. State Department puts out a report on the human rights situation in various countries, where, according to the

State Department, they are violations. It is a report in which the State Department pretends to be the judge, particularly of underdeveloped people. Obviously, it forgets major violations as seen, for instance, in the sanctions against Cuba, which cause misery and famine to thousands and thousands of people who are not in the least responsible for the way the Fidel Castro regime behaves; in the invasion of small countries that are not subservient to U.S. policy; in going to foreign countries to capture citizens regarded as criminals and forcibly take them to the United States, and so on.

Despite all that, we find the report important in view of what it exposes.

Regarding Mozambique, the document lists a number of actions seen as violation of rights, but it does so without much regard for terminology and substance. Moreover, it reveals a bias that is the hallmark of the current diplomatic mission in Maputo, which supports Renamo [Mozambique National Resistance]. The section on Mozambique overlooks Renamo's trampling of human rights and only highlights those that directly or otherwise relate to the elected Frelimo [Mozambique Liberation Front] government. Trampings are just that, whether they come from Renamo or Frelimo, and will not stop being so merely because the State Department decided to disclose them. Such a disclosure can even foster a deeper reflection.

The truth is that the report adds nothing new; it is a repetition of what is already known, although sources should have been cited to make the document credible. It is devoid of the tiniest scientific perspective, and has many inaccuracies. In the case of the media, such inaccuracies are alarming.

Adhering to the terminology used by Mozambican newspapers purporting to be the opposition, the report describes as independent the news media outlets that are not government-owned. For the State Department, every journalist employed by Mozambican newspapers that it regards as government-owned is either a spokesman for the regime or is manipulated by it. The other journalists are independent, even if they work for newspapers that surfaced thanks to subsidies from the United States and other countries. That is, if a newspaper is subsidized by the Mozambican state, it is manipulated. If a newspaper is subsidized directly or otherwise by the U.S. Government or other foreign governments, it is independent.

The report says the government has only the NOTICIAS dailies and DOMINGO, the largest weekly. In this instance, "has" means that the papers belong to the government and are its property. Extravagances of this type are unacceptable in a report that purports to be

strict. The newspapers in question do not belong to government, but to public liability companies whose shareholders have been duly identified.

In the U.S. simplistic view, when a journalist defends Prelimo standpoints, the State Department sees him as a government-controlled journalist. When a journalist defends Renamo standpoints, he is an independent journalist.

A newspaper includes one's opinions, and stories. The two are completely different things. A newspaper's independence is gauged primarily in terms of the stories it tells in a specific context. If the State Department author wishes to page through DOMINGO and NOTICIAS he will find all sorts of stories and a few others that the report describes as human rights violations, which suggests that he omitted them. But he should page through the newspapers without prejudice. He will then realize that the report's findings on the news media was not drafted independently. Independence for us means to write about what is happening without considering who is in power. DOMINGO is second to none when it comes to stories that it violently and crudely tells, and which often involved the powers that be.

For the U.S. State Department, journalists working for newspapers that it says are government property (and they are not), are remote-controlled puppets. But the author of the report did not bother to read every single page of those newspapers during the period under appraisal. Had he done so, he would have found out that the first newspaper to call for a minister's resignation was precisely NOTICIAS. If they had spoken to us, they would have become aware of the pressures from various powers that be, though this does not bother us, because we are aware of our capabilities. The difference is that we do not go around shouting whenever any power that be tries to pressure us. We know that that is what all the powers in the world do, and it is up to journalists to resist it. A newspaper's independence is not threatened by the pressure exerted on it, wherever it may have come from. A newspaper's independence is in danger when the powers that be impose conditions on journalists so that the latter may not resist them.

We have no sympathy for journalists who constantly scream that they are being pressured. We prefer those that do not dramatize pressures, but instead resist them by placing them in the context of powers. We show solidarity with those who scream that they are not allowed to write because official pressures so dictate. From experience, we know that a good number of journalists that do not write, alleging that they are under pressure, are merely using it as an excuse for their visceral laziness.

It is clear that the one who drafted the State Department report's section on the news media is inexperienced and has not yet been able to penetrate the complex world of intricate news media relations.

We will tell them a story: some time ago, a certain minister wanted to know who was giving information to our newspaper about a specific matter. He was told that sources could not be disclosed. His answer over the telephone was that "you will suffer the consequences." The journalist told him: "That is the seamy side of a job." It was as simple and natural as that. Nothing happened to the journalist, except having to listen to what the minister said at the spur of the moment. We know that anywhere in the world power behaves like that.

Do you remember the Watergate affair when journalists were grossly threatened by the highest U.S. powers? They resisted. One of those directly implicated in the report was even a Republican Party member. In Maputo recently, an ambassador refused to see a journalist who was a fellow countryman of his, and prohibited other members of the diplomatic mission from talking to him merely because Dennis Jett does not agree with the way our colleague practices journalism.

Gentlemen of the State Department, do not be so frivolous in your evaluation of Mozambican journalists. Do not be lazy. Study and do a bit more research, and do not allow yourselves to be taken for a ride by what journalists, whom you regard as your friends, disseminate.

Benin

Benin: Minister Warns Against Politically Motivated Attacks

AB260324796 Cotonou Office de
Radiodiffusion-Television du Benin Radio in French
1930 GMT 26 Mar 96

[Communique issued by Antoine Alabi Gbegan, minister of interior, security, and territorial administration, in Cotonou on 26 March]

[FBIS Translated Text] Word has reached me that individuals calling themselves supporters of one of the candidates in the second round of the March presidential elections are going about the markets and public places provoking with insulting words and acts citizens who have shown their support for the other candidate. Some of these individuals go to the extent of provoking peaceful citizens at home by hitting the gates of these political opponents with their fists or with clubs. They attack the homes of those who they presume did not vote for the same candidate that they did.

It is intolerable for the expression of individual freedoms in a democratic country that elections should continue to give rise to such behavior aimed at disrupting the peace and the security of citizens. This kind of behavior is tantamount to causing excesses and the breach of established republican order. That is why I would like, through this communique, to remind everyone that citizens who are found guilty of provoking and attacking their fellow citizens for motives arising from the presidential elections will be punished according to the law. The public security forces have been instructed to arrest and bring before the appropriate legal authorities all troublemakers and those responsible for the breach of individual freedoms. I am, therefore, inviting the whole population to be calm and remain serene for democracy to live long in our country.

Ghana

Ghana: President Installs Ministers, Meets U.S., OAU Officials

AB2603221296 Accra Ghana Broadcasting
Corporation Radio Network in English
1800 GMT 26 Mar 96

[FBIS Transcribed Excerpt] The president, Flight Lieutenant Jerry John Rawlings, today swore in three ministers and four deputy ministers of state at the Castle, Osu. The president also had separate meetings with the OAU secretary general, Dr. Salim Ahmed Salim; the U.S. special envoy on Liberia, Mr. Dane Smith; and the WHO regional director for Africa, Dr. Ibrahim Samba. Tina Tehoda reports:

[Begin Tehoda recording] The ministers are Mr. Cletus Avoka for Upper East; Mr. Valis Akyianu, Central Region; and Dr. Eunice Brookman-Amissah. [passage omitted]

At a meeting with the OAU secretary general, President Rawlings expressed his frustration at the slow reaction of the international community to helping ECOWAS [Economic Community of West African States] solve the Liberian conflict. He said the lack of logistical support to fulfill the Abuja Agreement had contributed to the loss in momentum to get the peace process through. The president asked Dr. Salim, who is on his way to Liberia, to impress upon the factions to wake up to the fact that any foul movement on their part will make the international community lose faith in the process. The United Nations should also find a way of urging the donor nations to fulfill their pledges. Dr. Salim commended President Rawlings for Ghana's commitment to ensuring peace and security in Liberia. He said the OAU will continue to support the efforts of ECOWAS to achieve peace in the subregion.

The U.S. special envoy on Liberia, Mr. Dane Smith, said that America is concerned about the current crisis in Liberia, the problems this poses to the peace process, and how to deal with it.

When the president met the WHO regional director for Africa, Dr. Ibrahim Samba, he acknowledged the dedication with which he worked with the onchocerciasis project in Ghana some years ago. President Rawlings said there is the need to take necessary measures and appropriate policies to prevent diseases. [passage omitted] [end recording]

Sierra Leone

Sierra Leone: Representative for President-Elect Kabbah Views Peace Talks

AB2603163796 London BBC World Service
in English 0630 GMT 26 Mar 96

[From the "Network Africa" program hosted by Max Bankole Jarret]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Today sees the second day of talks in the Ivorian capital, Yamoussoukro, between the Sierra Leonean military leader, Julius Maada Bio, and the leader of the Revolutionary United Front, Foday Sankoh, who has been fighting the government for five years. The talks are taking place just days before Brigadier Maada Bio hands over power to the newly elected civilian president, Alhaji Tejan Kabbah. The president-elect's representative at the talks is Dr. (Samba Banie). On the line to Yamoussoukro late last

night, I asked him to describe the atmosphere at the talks:

[Begin recording] [(Banie)] The atmosphere has been very, very relax. It seems like a family gathering to set certain misunderstanding. Foday Sankoh has been forthcoming with reasons for his going into the bush in the first instance. He said that he had come prepared to talk peace and he was certain that at the end of the talks peace would come to the country.

[Jarret] Now, Sierra Leone has been devastated by five years of civil war. Was there no bitterness at all about what has happened?

[(Banie)] Oh! Indeed, there was. I mean, that it was not all rosy, I mean, he blasted the politicians, he blasted the system. He couldn't understand why we were hurrying about elections when there were questions of hunger, poverty, destruction, and so forth, but as I say, having got all that off his chest, it was such as final [words indistinct] that he started with me personally by saying: Did you owe me some money for photographs I took of you in 1977 during your political career? Well, that kind of thing was very encouraging. Then he asked us that [words indistinct] go in for me for an interview I gave to you the BBC some time ago?

[Jarret] Now, Dr. (Banie), you are representing President-elect Alhaji Tejan Kabbah at the talks. Does it mean that you will be joining in on a equal footing with Brig. Bio when he discusses with Foday Sankoh?

[(Banie)] This evening at talks between Chairman Maada Bio and Corporal Sankoh, I did not attend that one. It was just the two of them, but I have an appointment to see Foday Sankoh in the morning at his request and then there is a plan for a meeting between the two of them in which I would be expected to participate.

[Jarret] Why are you more encouraged? Do you think Foday Sankoh is gonna be more accessible from now on?

[(Banie)] From one's experience of other places, the difficulty will be even getting the participants to shake hands at all. It is not only [words indistinct] he had said to me: I am not going to let you down my brother, but then he decided to come and shake us all by their hands and then to crown it all this evening at an informal dinner. All delegations were there with us all over the place, and he spent the whole evening telling us there his experiences, some of the tricks he and his men used to lead the Army into. It was very relax, and I think that we are going to get something positive out these talks.

[Jarret] So, what role do you and President-elect Tejan Kabbah see for Foday Sankoh if everyone has to get together to solve the problem in Sierra Leone?

[(Banie)] When this is over, and he will be (?able) to meet Alhaji Tejan Kabbah — he has not said that but that is one possibility — then, of course, there are going to be opportunities for working groups to meet in future. And that is where the international community will come in as facilitators for this. [end recording]

Sierra Leone: Government, Rebels Pledge To Keep Cease-Fire

AB2603224596 Paris AFP in English
2226 GMT 26 Mar 96

[FBIS Transcribed Text] YAMOUSSOUKRO, Ivory Coast, March 26 (AFP) — Talks aimed at ending Sierra Leone's civil war closed here Tuesday (26 March) with both sides agreeing negotiations should continue with the country's incoming civilian government and that a ceasefire called this month should be maintained.

After two days of talks, the agreement was signed around 8:30 p.m. (2030 GMT) by Sierra Leone's outgoing head of state, Brigadier General Julius Maada Bio, and rebel leader Corporal Foday Sankoh.

"The two heads of delegations agreed that the process of peaceful negotiations initiated under the (military) government should continue after they would have handed over the reigns of power to a new government," the agreement said.

"The RUF [Revolutionary United Front] remains ready to respond to peace overtures by well-meaning Sierra Leoneans and their positive reaction would depend on the approaches made by the new government," it added.

The RUF, or Revolutionary United Front, is the rebel group led by Sankoh.

There was no indication, however, whether the RUF would recognise the new civilian government elected this month and which is to be sworn in Friday, ending four years of military rule.

No date for further talks was set.

Maada Bio is to hand over power to president-elect Ahmed Tejan Kabbah.

During the summit Sankoh maintained his opposition to Sierra Leone's electoral process, claiming a peace settlement should have been reached first.

In agreeing to maintain a two-month ceasefire called March 17, both delegations hoped to "create the right atmosphere for the continuation of the peace process

and for the supply of relief material," according to the statement.

The two parties also agreed on the priority of concentrating on humanitarian assistance for Sierra Leone, which has been ravaged by the five-year-old civil war.

Since the conflict started more than 10,000 people have been killed and almost half the country's 4.5 million inhabitants forced to flee their homes.

"Headway has been made. We have made great steps forward," said Ivorian foreign minister and summit chair Amara Essy.

"I only have four days left in office. This is a very big achievement not only for me but also for the people of Sierra Leone," said Maada Bio.

"It's a good beginning. I wish we could have gone a little further. I hope the next meeting will have a little more significant success," commented United Nations representative Berhanu Dinka.

Sierra Leone: Peace Talks End, Ivorian Foreign Minister Comments

AB2703090396 Abidjan Radio Cote d'Ivoire Chaine Nationale-Une Network in French
0700 GMT 27 Mar 96

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] The peace talks between the Sierra Leonean Government representatives and the Revolutionary United Front [RUF], under the auspices of Cote d'Ivoire, ended yesterday in Yamoussoukro. This is the first time Brigadier Julius Maada Bio and the rebel RUF leader, Foday Sankoh, were meeting. After the meeting, the two sides undertook to continue the peace talks and respect the cease-fire agreement. Our correspondent in Yamoussoukro, Paul Able Djama, reports:

[Begin recording] [Djama] The long hours of hard negotiations between the National Provisional Ruling Council [NPRC] led by Brigadier Bio and the leader of the RUF, Foday Sankoh, were not in vain. The same can be said of all the efforts deployed by Cote d'Ivoire and all people of goodwill to bring peace among the enemy brothers of Sierra Leone. The final communique mentions, among other important decisions, that the cease-fire should be maintained for two months. The two sides expressed the wish to see the peace process initiated by the NPRC to continue. The communique also mentions the immediate creation of conditions that would alleviate the sufferings of the people and set up humanitarian aid. Both sides agreed not to undertake any military action around displaced persons camps and not to ambush any humanitarian aid convoy. They also expressed the wish to see the president and Government

of Cote d'Ivoire continue to support any initiative aimed at enhancing the peace process in Sierra Leone. Foreign Minister Amara Essy, who is one of the initiators of the peace talks, is not at all disappointed by the this first phase:

[Amara] I think President Henri Konan Bedie himself said that it would be an illusion to want to have a peace agreement after three or four meetings. These people have been fighting for five years and the RUF has not come out of the forest for five years. Foday Sankoh was telling me in the helicopter that he has not set his foot in a car for seven years, this being impossible in the forest. So they need some time first to update themselves about what is going on in the world. Many people were convinced that things were going to be difficult and so they are not at all surprised by what is going on. But one thing is certain — and I think President Bedie said it — that the wall of mistrust has been broken. And this is very important. Unfortunately under the present circumstances we are going to change a team right in the middle of negotiations. So the problem which arose was to see if all the pledges made would be respected by those taking over power. When we talk of pledges, we think of power sharing and ministerial positions in government. We also think about seats in parliament by a political decision. But I think Foday Sankoh wants to go deeper into things: He wants to get precise answers to issues of medium and long-term importance. So he wants to conduct an overall view on the future of Sierra Leone, more especially when he is not somebody new on the political scene. He has been fighting since the colonial days and has been imprisoned for that several times. He knows all the politicians who have come to power, so he wanted to have some assurances on their long-term objectives. This means he has to meet the new leaders. I think the communique outlined what each side wants, that as soon as possible the new leaders should meet Foday Sankoh so that they can have detailed discussions. Both sides have almost agreed on this. President Konan Bedie will be in contact with both sides. After the new president has been sworn in, I think another meeting will be necessary to dissipate any misunderstanding and have an assurance on the future.

[Djama] The first phase of negotiations to bring about peace in Sierra Leone has just ended on a note of hope for all the Sierra Leonean people who have been in search of peace for several years. Considering the good intentions expressed by both sides, it is hoped that the strong desire displayed by all to alleviate the sufferings of the people, often innocent victims, would triumph over the pride and selfishness of politicians. [end recording]

Sierra Leone: President-Elect Calls For National Reconciliation

AB2703094596 *Freetown SLBS Radio in English*
2000 GMT 26 Mar 96

[FBIS Transcribed Text] The president-elect, Alhaji Ahmed Tejan Kabbah, has admonished supporters of the Sierra Leone People's Party, SLPP, to work toward national unity and reconciliation.

Addressing executive members and supporters of the SLPP of Tengbeh Town branch, who called on him at his Tuba Hill residence to congratulate him on his election victory, Alhaji Tejan Kabbah described his victory as a challenge to all patriotic Sierra Leoneans stressing that now is the time for all to unite and work toward nation building. The president-elect said the task ahead is not easy and encouraged his supporters to initiate viable programs that will enhance development in their area. He advised them to refrain from any acts that will create misunderstanding to their opponents and encouraged them to accommodate all members of the

political parties so that peace and unity would prevail in the country.

Earlier in a statement, the chairman of the SLPP, Tengbeh Town branch, Mr. Samuel Pott, commended the chairman of the NPRC [National Provisional Ruling Council] and head of state, Brigadier General Julius Maada Bio, and the NPRC Government for creating a democratic environment for the people to exercise their right to choose their leader. He said that they in Tengbeh Town were proud of the election victory of Alhaji Tejan Kabbah noting that his victory signals a new dawn in the country. Mr. Pott stressed that peace and unity are major elements for any progressive society and implored party supporters to compromise their political and tribal affiliation for a better Sierra Leone. He wished the president-elect a successful tenure of office.

Special prayers for peace in the country and for a speedy end of the rebel war was offered by Mustafa Kromah while the president of the women's wing moves the vote of thanks.

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